Charter of the

Decentralised People's Government

Preamble

For decades, people across Europe have become increasingly aware of a troubling truth: no matter whom they vote for, the course of events remains stubbornly unchanged. Regulations deepen, hierarchies tighten, and decisions made in distant halls continue to impact lives without consent. This hierarchical democracy has led civilians to suffer devastating wars, economic and social crises, without their will or consent. This growing disillusionment with conventional democracy has fueled a quiet crisis of political apathy, disengagement, and in parallel, an unspoken demand to move towards a more direct democracy.

The Decentralist model rises in response as a solution, aiming to empower civic wealth, prosperity, and liberties for all citizens. It offers the most comprehensive societal reform in over two centuries, replacing rigid hierarchy with participatory power, introducing transparent local governance, and taxation without representation with fiscal autonomy and civic investment.

We present this Charter as a concrete and scalable framework. Built on the principles of dignity, consent, responsibility, and peace, the Decentralised People's Government reclaims governance for the people, where it should have always belonged, fostering a society where every individual can thrive. For a summary of practical policy proposals that directly address financial surveillance, housing security, fair banking, and citizen-driven development, see the Annex: Practical Reforms for Civic and Economic Liberation at the end of this Charter. These measures are designed for immediate implementation and provide concrete tools for decentralised governance and economic justice.

I. Fundamental Principles

Sovereignty of the People: All authority within this Government derives from the people. Governance at every level is founded upon the consent of the governed, exercised through both direct and representative democratic mechanisms. Every citizen holds the inherent right and opportunity to participate in public affairs, whether directly or via freely chosen representatives.

Voluntary Union & Regional Autonomy: The Decentralised People's Government is constituted as a federation of regions and communities, freely joined in pursuit of common goals. Each member region retains substantial autonomy to govern its internal affairs. Adhering to the principle of subsidiarity, matters best addressed at a lower political level shall not be elevated to a higher one. All regions are equal under this Charter, and each may establish its own local charters and institutions, provided they consistently uphold the shared principles and fundamental rights enshrined herein.

Supremacy of the Charter & Rule of Law: This Charter stands as the supreme law of the land. It binds all levels of governance, ensuring a common legal framework that safeguards fundamental rights across all regions. All laws and policies, at any level, must comply with this Charter. Government power shall be exercised strictly in accordance with this Charter and laws derived from it, never arbitrarily.

Democracy and Civic Participation: Governance is conducted transparently and inclusively. Electronic democracy offers innovative opportunities to enhance public engagement and participation, empowering civil society through both bottom-up and top-down initiatives. Citizens are provided with secure civic tools to participate in decision-making, including referendums, popular initiatives, and digital consultations, thereby ensuring that the will of the people forms the basis of all government authority.

Human Dignity and Solidarity: The Government is committed to upholding universal human dignity and fostering solidarity among all people and regions. Communities are expected to support one another, ensuring no group is marginalised or exploited. Policies shall actively promote social cohesion and mutual aid, reflecting our collective responsibility for one another's welfare.

Majority Rule and Minority Protection: Democracy is underpinned by majority rule, yet the will of the majority, to be legitimate, must be reasonable. Minorities possess equal rights, which equal law must rigorously protect. This Charter therefore endorses majority decision-making, strictly limiting it by the supreme law of fundamental rights. Any attempt by a majority, whether at the local or federal level, to oppress or exclude a minority group, or to deny them equitable access to public resources, is prohibited. All governance bodies must ensure minorities have an inviolable voice and that community resources and opportunities are shared fairly, without unjust advantage to the majority or deprivation of any minority.

Unity in Diversity: While common values are upheld, the union profoundly respects the rich diversity of local cultures, languages, and traditions. Regional autonomy and voluntary association enable distinct communities to flourish under the overarching protection of common fundamental rights and universal justice.

II. Fundamental Rights and Liberties

The Decentralised People's Government guarantees an inalienable Charter of Rights to all individuals under its jurisdiction, safeguarded against encroachment by any majority or authority. These rights include, but are not limited to, the following:

Right to Dignity, Life, and Personal Liberty: Every human being's dignity is inviolable and must be respected and protected. Everyone has the right to life and personal security; no person shall be subjected to violence, arbitrary detention, or deprivation of liberty without due process of law. Torture, inhuman or degrading treatment, slavery, and forced labour are strictly prohibited.

Freedom of Thought, Expression, and Association: All individuals are free to hold and express opinions, and to seek, receive, and impart information without interference by public authority. Freedom of conscience, religion, and belief is guaranteed, alongside the right to peaceful assembly and to form associations or communities for any lawful purpose. A diversity of ideas and open dialogue are protected by law. No person shall be compelled to join or remain in any association against their will.

Right to Privacy and Data Protection: Every person has the right to respect for their private and family life, home, and communications. Personal data shall be protected, and may only be collected or processed according to law, with the individual's consent or another legitimate basis. Everyone has the right to access and correct their data. Privacy is a fundamental right that may only be balanced against public interests strictly in accordance with the law.

Equality and Non-Discrimination: All individuals are equal before the law. Discrimination based on sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability, or any other status is prohibited. The Government shall promote substantive equality, social justice, and intergenerational solidarity, ensuring inclusive participation in society.

Due Process and Fair Trial: Every person has the right to an effective remedy and a fair, public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal in case of any criminal charge or civil dispute. Judgments shall be pronounced publicly, ensuring justice is transparent and timely. Everyone charged with an offence is presumed innocent until proven guilty and is guaranteed defence rights, including counsel of choice and the ability to present evidence. Retroactive laws and double jeopardy are prohibited.

Right to Property: The right to own, use, dispose of, and bequeath lawfully acquired property is recognised. No person shall be arbitrarily deprived of property; any expropriation for public necessity must be authorised by law, for just cause, and with fair compensation. The use of property may be regulated by law insofar as necessary for the general interest, but shall not infringe on the rights of others.

Social Rights and Basic Welfare: In the spirit of human dignity and solidarity, every person has the right to a decent standard of living. The Government and its regions shall endeavour to ensure no one is left without basic means of subsistence, including food, shelter, healthcare, and essential services. The right to

social security and assistance is recognised for those in need, ensuring a decent existence for all who lack sufficient resources. Access to housing, healthcare, education, and basic income support shall be provided under equitable conditions, as determined by law.

Education and Cultural Rights: Everyone has the right to education aimed at the full development of human personality and civic competence. Communities have the freedom to foster their cultural heritage and languages. The Government shall respect cultural and linguistic diversity and promote access to culture, science, and public information.

All these rights shall be protected by law. No regional or local authority may infringe upon these fundamental rights; the shared legal structure ensures that even a democratic majority cannot abrogate the core liberties of any minority. In times of emergency, certain rights may be temporarily regulated under strict legal oversight (see Section VIII). However, no crisis can justify suspending the essence of human dignity or other non-derogable rights, and any emergency measures must be strictly necessary and proportional.

III. Government Structure and Institutions

The Decentralised People's Government operates through distinct institutions at Federal (Union) and Regional/Local levels, each with clearly defined competencies. Power is deliberately distributed to prevent concentration and abuse, adhering to the principle that governance should remain as local as practicable and as unified as necessary.

Legislative Authority

Legislative power is exercised through a transparent, multi-tier system:

Federal Legislature: This council or assembly represents the federation as a whole. Its members are chosen by the people through proportional and/or regional representation, as defined by law. The Federal Legislature enacts laws on matters of common concern explicitly assigned to the Union by this Charter, such as fundamental justice, inter-regional commerce, external relations, and other competencies agreed upon by the regions. All proceedings are open to the public, with draft laws published in advance for citizen review and input. Legislative debates and votes are recorded and made public, with exceptions only for vital security or privacy concerns requiring strict confidentiality. Citizens retain the right to propose legislation or demand referendums on significant federal laws, according to procedures established by this Charter.

Regional Legislatures: Each member region or community maintains its own legislative body, such as a regional council or assembly, elected by its people. These bodies hold authority over all matters not explicitly delegated to the federal level. They may legislate on local issues—including education, local infrastructure, culture, and other internal affairs—without interference, provided their laws do not conflict

with this Charter or federal law. Federal law establishes a framework but defers to regional laws wherever possible, in line with the principle of subsidiarity. For instance, a region may regulate or prohibit certain local events or practices based on its values, provided such measures do not violate the fundamental freedoms guaranteed by this Charter, such as freedom of expression or peaceful assembly.

Harmonisation and Competence: In the event of a conflict between federal and regional law, this Charter (and laws validly enacted under it) prevails. However, federal competences are to be interpreted narrowly, with all residual powers remaining with the regions. The Federal Legislature shall not assume powers beyond those granted by this Charter. Regions actively participate in federal decision-making, and mechanisms, such as a second chamber or a formal conference of regional governments, may be established to ensure regional voices are heard on federal legislation affecting their autonomy.

Executive Authority

Executive power is responsible for faithfully carrying out laws and coordinating governance at its respective levels:

Federal Executive Council: A federal council or similar body oversees the Union's daily administration and the implementation of federal laws. It operates under clear legal constraints and is accountable to the Federal Legislature and, ultimately, to the people. Its portfolio is confined to constitutional competencies, such as coordinating common policies, representing the union externally, ensuring inter-regional infrastructure and trade, and safeguarding the union's security and citizens' rights. The Federal Executive holds no authority to interfere in matters reserved for regions, except to ensure compliance with this Charter or to mediate inter-regional disputes as legally permitted.

Regional Executives: Each region has its own executive branch—a government, council, or equivalent—responsible for implementing local laws and managing local public services. Regional executives are accountable to their local legislatures and people. They coordinate with the Federal Executive on shared matters and may enter cooperative agreements with other regions for mutual benefit, provided such agreements respect federal law.

Inter-level Cooperation: Federal and regional executives shall cooperate in good faith. Federal bodies may provide assistance or coordination to regions upon request, and regional bodies, conversely, participate in shaping and executing federal policies. Joint institutions or conferences may be established for areas of overlapping responsibility (e.g., inter-regional infrastructure, public health responses), always ensuring the federal level supports, rather than overrides, the regional level unless legally justified.

Judicial Authority

An independent judiciary ensures the uniform application of the Charter and the protection of rights:

Constitutional Court: A highest judicial body, such as a Constitutional Court, is established to interpret this Charter and adjudicate disputes between regions and federal authorities, alongside hearing claims of fundamental rights violations. It can nullify laws or acts contravening this Charter, thereby providing a clear constitutional safeguard to preserve the rule of law. This court ensures no authority exceeds its mandate and that individual rights are consistently upheld. Judges shall be independent and impartial, appointed through a transparent, merit-based process requiring approval from both federal and regional representatives to ensure balanced oversight.

Federal Judiciary: A system of federal courts handles matters under federal law, including interstate disputes, federal crimes, and appeals on constitutional issues. These courts operate under the principles of fair trial and due process enumerated in this Charter. Trials are generally public, and reasoned judgments are published for transparency. The judiciary possesses the power to review executive actions and, where legally provided, legislative acts for compliance with this Charter.

Regional Judiciary: Each region maintains its own courts for local matters and the enforcement of regional laws. Regional judicial systems must uphold the minimum standards of due process and the rights guaranteed by this Charter. Decisions of regional courts can be appealed to federal courts when involving constitutional questions or cross-regional issues, thereby ensuring coherence in the interpretation of fundamental rights and common laws.

Legislative Transparency and Public Deliberation: To ensure transparent legislative processes, all proposed laws (at federal or regional level) shall be published in draft form and subjected to public comment and deliberation periods. Legislative bodies must operate openly: sessions are public, and minutes, voting records, and committee reports are accessible to citizens. Exceptions for closed sessions are permitted only for matters requiring strict confidentiality, such as national security, and must be narrowly construed. Citizens have the right to petition legislatures on any issue and to receive a considered response.

Subsidiarity and Shared Governance: In adherence to regional autonomy, any powers not expressly granted to the federal government remain with the regions and communities. Federal authorities shall not assume competence by implication. In areas of overlapping responsibility, the principle of subsidiarity guides decisions: governance should be enacted as close to the people as feasible, with the federal level intervening only when objectives cannot be effectively achieved by lower levels. Regions may opt into federated programmes or opt out if they provide equivalent local solutions, provided fundamental rights and obligations are met.

IV. Civic Participation and Digital Infrastructure

Active civic engagement forms the cornerstone of this Government. To facilitate broad public participation in governance, the following mechanisms are established:

Universal Civic Identity (Smart ID): Every citizen shall be provided with a secure, government-issued Smart ID card, serving as a physical and digital key to civic life. This ID is a free-standing, secure credential, independent of personal devices for privacy and security, usable at public access points or personal devices to verify identity for voting, public services, and civil transactions. The objective is to guarantee secure and reliable electronic identification for all residents, ensuring no one is excluded from the digital public sphere. Its use in elections or public services shall preserve privacy through robust encryption and data protection measures. Personal data linked to the ID remains under the individual's control, with strong safeguards enabling citizens to securely manage, share, or withhold their personal information at their sole discretion.

Digital Voting and Direct Democracy: Every citizen possesses the right to vote in free, periodic elections of equal weight, by secret ballot. While participation is encouraged, it remains entirely voluntary; no person shall be coerced or penalised for choosing not to vote, and each vote carries the same value. Voting is facilitated using secure personal identification, such as the Smart ID, to authenticate each voter's eligibility, ensuring one-person-one-vote integrity in all ballots. The Government shall maintain secure platforms for digital voting, enabling remote participation in elections, referendums, and initiatives, or at designated public facilities. Voting systems must be transparent and auditable, allowing for examination and verification of collection and counting processes, and for recounts to confirm accuracy. Robust measures, such as voter-verified audit trails or open-source code verification, shall prevent any interference with voting results. Independent security auditing and monitoring of the voting system is mandatory for every election, with audit results made public. The secrecy of the ballot is sacrosanct; any digital voting solution must ensure voter anonymity while allowing verification of authentic and unaltered votes. In addition to scheduled elections, citizens may trigger binding referendums on policy issues or legislation through a defined popular initiative process, leveraging the digital platform for signature collection and voting. These tools are designed to empower civil society and enable direct participation, complementing traditional democratic institutions. All voting processes, including referendums and initiatives, shall have clearly defined participation deadlines. Should voter turnout fall below a statistically viable threshold, as determined by law, the decision on the matter will default to the relevant legislative or executive body, informed by expert assessment, ensuring continuous governance and timely policy implementation. This mechanism ensures essential decisions are always made while upholding the democratic intent of direct participation.

Accessibility and Inclusion: Civic technology and participation tools will be universally accessible. This includes providing public kiosks or community centres where citizens can use their Smart ID to vote or access e-government services without requiring personal devices or advanced technical knowledge. Special provisions will ensure equal and effective access to all participation mechanisms for people with

disabilities, the elderly, and those in remote areas. The digital infrastructure will support multiple languages and adhere to high standards of usability and security, fostering confident engagement across all segments of society.

Transparency and Public Deliberation Online: The Government will host open forums and e-democracy platforms for policy discussion, enabling citizens to debate proposals, provide input to lawmakers, and crowdsource ideas in a civil environment. These forums will be moderated to ensure respectful discourse and to inform public officials of citizens' perspectives. Developments in e-democracy aim to enhance transparency, accountability, access, and dialogue, thereby improving governance and reinforcing public trust in democratic procedures. Legislative proposals, budgets, and regulatory decisions shall be published on digital platforms with explanatory information, allowing citizens to understand and evaluate government actions.

Auditability and Security: All civic technology systems, including digital ID, voting platforms, and participation forums, shall be developed with open standards and, where possible, open-source software subject to public review. Regular public audits of software, security protocols, and data handling practices will be conducted by independent experts and citizen representatives. Audit results will be published to ensure accountability. A dedicated Digital Rights Ombudsman, or similar independent office, will oversee the integrity of digital participation tools and address grievances related to digital governance, such as allegations of data misuse or technical irregularities in voting.

Legal Standing of Digital Participation: Votes and decisions made through approved digital mechanisms hold the same legal validity as those made by traditional methods. Legislation will define the process for certifying digital election results and handling disputes, with fallback options like manual recounts or re-votes if audit trails or integrity checks reveal discrepancies. By constitutional design, the people's will expressed electronically carries full legitimacy, provided audit mechanisms verify the results and due process is observed.

In summary, the Government leverages modern technology to broaden and deepen democratic engagement, ensuring these tools are secure, verifiable, and accessible to all citizens. This blend of direct and digital democracy complements, rather than replaces, traditional governance, creating a resilient system where citizens continuously participate in and oversee the decisions that affect their lives.

V. Economic and Resource Governance

The economic model of the Decentralised People's Government is rooted in autonomy, transparency, and human dignity. It seeks to integrate market efficiency with the values of solidarity and sustainability, ensuring economic power is neither centralised nor abused, and that all communities share equitably in prosperity.

Decentralised Economic Authority: Each region retains the autonomy to manage its economic affairs, including taxation, public spending, and development policies, to suit local needs within broad federal parameters. Federal authorities may coordinate matters crossing regional boundaries, such as inter-regional trade, common currency standards, large-scale infrastructure, and environmental protection, always in partnership with regions and respecting local prerogatives. This federal framework aims to foster sustainable and balanced growth across communities, preventing wealth concentration in any single centre.

Social Market Economy Principles: The union embraces a social market economy, committed to full employment and social progress. Economic policy shall promote both competitiveness and social justice and cohesion. Equality, solidarity, and the protection of the vulnerable are integral objectives alongside economic growth. Private enterprise is recognised and protected, bearing responsibilities for fair wages, just labour conditions, environmental stewardship, and contribution to community well-being. Workers' rights to fair and just conditions, including safe workplaces, reasonable hours, and collective bargaining, are guaranteed. Exploitation of labour or unchecked corporate power is countered by robust labour protections and antitrust laws.

Economic Transparency and Accountability: All public economic dealings—including budgets, contracts, and resource concessions—must be transparent. Governments at all levels shall publish budgets and financial accounts accessibly, allowing citizens clear oversight of public fund allocation and expenditure. Open contracting and competitive procurement rules are mandated to prevent corruption and local monopolies in government services. Community members have the right to observe and audit local economic projects, while independent auditor generals (at federal and regional levels) will conduct regular audits of public finances, reporting any misuse publicly.

Protection Against Monopolies and Exploitation: To prevent majoritarian exploitation or local monopolies, the Charter enshrines the principle that essential resources and services benefit the broader populace, not merely powerful interests. Any attempt by a majority group, federal or local, to monopolise communal resources or infrastructure to the detriment of others is forbidden. Competition laws will prohibit and dismantle monopolistic practices in both private and public sectors. Local communities cannot restrict access to water, energy, or other basic resources in ways that harm neighbouring regions or minority populations. Services of general economic interest, such as utilities and public transport, must be accessible to all and operated to promote social and territorial cohesion, whether provided by public or regulated private entities. The Government may designate critical resources, like water, public lands, or

mineral wealth, as public trust assets managed for the common good, with revenues or benefits shared among the people of relevant communities.

Resource Sovereignty and Sustainability: Each region possesses the right to control and benefit from its natural resources—land, water, minerals, forests—subject to overarching principles of environmental protection, sustainability, intergenerational equity, and respect for other communities' rights. Natural resource exploitation must adhere to high environmental standards and the principle of sustainable development. Resource-rich regions have a duty to use them responsibly and share equitable returns with their populations. The federal framework may provide equalisation mechanisms to prevent resource endowment disparities from creating inequities in public services or opportunities across the union. No community shall be impoverished while another prospers from a commonly shared environment. Environmental harm or externalities must be prevented or remedied by those responsible. A Federal Environmental and Resource Commission may be established to oversee trans-regional environmental issues and arbitrate resource use disputes.

Autonomy with Economic Interdependence: While regions may pursue diverse economic models—whether more market-driven or community-based—all remain economically interdependent as part of a single union. The free movement of people, goods, services, and capital among regions is generally ensured, fostering a common economic area with respect for local regulations. However, this freedom shall not be abused to circumvent labour or environmental laws; the higher standard, whether local or federal, applies to prevent a "race to the bottom". The union may set minimum guidelines for workers' rights, consumer protection, and environmental safeguards, which all regions must adhere to, while regions are free to provide stronger protections.

Human Dignity in the Economy: Economic arrangements must consistently uphold human dignity. This entails avoiding extreme inequality and providing robust social safety nets. Each region, with federal support as needed, shall guarantee basic income support or social aid for those in poverty, unemployment benefits, universal healthcare, and other measures ensuring everyone can live in dignity. The economy serves as a means to secure a decent life for all members of society, not an end in itself. No person or group should be allowed to fall into destitution, nor should any be permitted to monopolise the economy to the exclusion of others.

Public Contribution & Fiscal Neutrality: This principle extends to taxation and public finance. The system of public contributions shall be fair and as neutral as possible concerning economic decisions. Contributions to common needs are primarily based on individuals' and entities' ownership and use of resources or assets, rather than punitive levies on labour or productivity. Each region may institute taxes or fees tied to the ownership of land, natural resources, or other property, reflecting the stewardship responsibilities inherent in such ownership. The Government may raise additional funds for public projects through voluntary public bonds or community investment instruments, enabling citizens to support communal development by their own free will. No individual shall face punitive or discriminatory taxation solely for possessing wealth; the tax code shall not penalise success or savings, and it strives to

avoid distorting economic behaviour or choices. All public revenues are managed with transparency and directed toward providing essential services and infrastructure that benefit society as a whole.

Innovation and Self-Reliance: Communities are encouraged to foster economic innovation through cooperatives, social enterprises, local complementary currencies, communal self-sufficiency, or new technologies, serving as laboratories of democracy and prosperity. The federal government will facilitate knowledge-sharing between regions and prevent unreasonable regulatory barriers to such innovation, provided fundamental rights and fair competition are upheld. Alternative cooperative or communal economic arrangements are legally recognised and protected as an exercise of freedom of association. No community shall face discrimination or legal barriers merely for peacefully and unconventionally organising its economic life, so long as Charter rights are respected. Intellectual property and creative works are protected, always balanced with the public interest and the goal of widespread access to knowledge and technology.

In sum, the economic system is decentralised in control but united in principles: it prioritises transparency, equal opportunity, and the well-being of all citizens over unchecked profit. Economic power is constrained by democratic oversight and legal limits to ensure it serves the autonomy and dignity of communities and individuals, preventing it from becoming a tool of coercion or inequality.

VI. Public Security, Justice, and Enforcement

To maintain a free and voluntary society, this Charter establishes mechanisms to address legal violations threatening the rights or safety of others. Enforcement is approached as peacekeeping and justice, not dominance: it is carefully constrained, transparent, and focused on community protection and offender rehabilitation.

Scope of Criminal Law: Acts constituting serious violations of rights—such as violence against the person (including assault, coercion, and homicide), theft, property crimes, fraud, deceit, and other forms of coercion or intimidation—are deemed criminal offences under the shared legal framework. Unlawful violence, threats, coercion, or deprivation of property or liberty are prohibited and shall incur proportionate sanctions. This Charter defines baseline grave crimes, including crimes against humanity, human trafficking, and large-scale environmental destruction, while enabling regions to define and manage less serious offences locally.

Law Enforcement Structure

Policing and peacekeeping are primarily community-based and publicly accountable.

Local Peacekeeping: Each region or community maintains its own peacekeeping service, such as a police force or civil guard, to enforce laws and maintain public order. These services are integral to the community, with officers drawn from and serving the local population. They operate under strict codes of

conduct emphasising minimal force, respect for rights, and de-escalation. Use of force is legally governed and subject to review. Peace officers are trained to protect and serve, not to occupy or intimidate. Communities may also organise auxiliary peacekeeping methods, such as mediation councils or restorative justice programmes, to handle minor disputes without resorting to punitive measures, provided basic rights are respected.

Federal Coordination: A federal investigative and enforcement arm addresses crimes crossing regional boundaries or impacting the Union's integrity, such as organised crime spanning multiple regions, high-level corruption, or serious constitutional rights violations. This federal service operates strictly within clear jurisdiction and typically supports local authorities. It may be deployed at a region's request or by constitutional mandate when necessary for justice in cases beyond local capacity. Federal intervention in policing must always be transparent and reported to the appropriate legislative bodies. Should a region experience a breakdown of public order or governance that it cannot resolve internally, federal authorities, in coordination with other regions, may intervene with peacekeeping support to restore lawful governance and safeguard the people. Such intervention is a last resort, undertaken only under the strict conditions and oversight defined in this Charter's emergency provisions, with local self-governance reinstated immediately upon re-establishment of order.

Judicial Oversight: All law enforcement actions are subject to continuous judicial oversight. Detentions, searches, and seizures require warrants or defined urgent circumstances, and are subject to prompt court review. Anyone accused of a crime has the right to appear promptly before a judge, be informed of the charges, and challenge their detention or charges. Independent oversight boards, including community members, will monitor police conduct, investigate complaints of abuse, and recommend disciplinary action or reforms. These boards operate publicly while protecting sensitive information to build trust through accountability.

Transparency and Accountability in Peacekeeping: Peacekeeping protocols shall be transparent. Police organisations must publish regular reports on their activities, including statistics on stops, arrests, use-of-force incidents, and outcomes, disaggregated by relevant factors while preserving personal privacy. Secret police or unaccountable security forces are prohibited. Any special security operations, such as counter-terrorism units or emergency response teams, must be legally authorised and overseen by civilian authorities. Civilian control of policing is mandatory; elected or independent civilian boards set general policies and review grievances. Misconduct by law enforcement officials—including brutality, corruption, or rights violations—is a punishable offence, and victims are entitled to redress.

Right to Security and Victim Support: Every person has the right to protection from violence and crime. The Government shall implement reasonable measures to prevent foreseeable harm, including community education, conflict-prevention programmes, and fair social policies addressing root causes of crime like poverty or lack of opportunity. Victims of crime have the right to appropriate assistance, restitution where possible, and access to justice. Special attention will be given to vulnerable persons, such as children or victims of domestic violence, to ensure their safety and recovery.

Fair Trial and Punishment: All accused persons are entitled to the protections outlined in the Rights section, including presumption of innocence and defence rights. Trials for criminal offences shall be conducted publicly by independent courts. Punishments upon conviction shall aim for justice and rehabilitation, not solely retribution. Cruel or degrading punishments are prohibited. Incarceration, when employed, focuses on secure but humane custody, offering opportunities for education, skill-building, and societal reintegration. Alternatives to imprisonment—such as community service, mediation, or restitution—are preferred for lower-level offences to maintain social cohesion.

VII. Transparency, Accountability, and Oversight

An open government is indispensable for democracy. All institutions of the Decentralised People's Government are subject to rigorous transparency and oversight to maintain public trust and prevent power abuse. This Charter mandates structures and practices that render governance visible and answerable to the people.

Right to Information: Every individual possesses the right of access to official documents and records held by public authorities, including legislative materials, administrative decisions, budgets, and reports. Exceptions are permitted only for legitimate aims, such as protecting personal privacy, security, or other clearly defined interests, and solely to the minimum extent necessary. A freedom of information law will detail the process for citizens to request and receive timely information. Administrative decisions must include stated reasons, and affected parties have the right to be heard before decisions are made.

Open Governance: Legislative and executive branches at all levels shall conduct their business as openly as possible. Deliberative meetings, such as council sessions and committee hearings, are open to the public or media, unless temporarily classified for lawful reasons. Voting records of representatives, debate transcripts, and enacted laws are published in an accessible format for citizens. The default presumption is that government information is public; secrecy is an exception requiring legal justification in each case.

Participatory Oversight: Citizens have established avenues for oversight participation. Beyond elections and referendums, individuals and civil society organisations can observe many government processes; for example, community observers may attend police oversight hearings, or independent organisations may audit public service delivery. The right to petition is guaranteed: any person may petition the competent authority, whether a local council or the federal legislature, on any matter of public concern and receive a formal response. Petitions garnering significant support must receive due consideration or be placed on the relevant body's agenda.

Audit Institutions: A Public Audit Office shall be established at the federal level, with analogous bodies in each region, to regularly audit government finances, programmes, and legal compliance. These audit institutions operate independently of the executive, reporting directly to the legislature and the public. Audit findings, including identified mismanagement, waste, or fraud, are published and followed by

mandatory corrective action plans. The audit offices also verify that all agencies comply with transparency requirements.

Ombudsman and Redress: The Charter establishes an Ombudsman (Public Defender) at the federal level and encourages each region to do likewise. Any person may approach the Ombudsman with complaints of maladministration, unjust treatment by authorities, or violations of rights by public officials. The Ombudsman is empowered to impartially investigate complaints and recommend remedies. While the Ombudsman's decisions may not be legally binding, their recommendations carry moral authority and are expected to be implemented; failure to do so permits referral to the legislature or courts for action. This office provides an accessible check on bureaucracy, ensuring grievances are heard and systemic issues brought to light.

Independent Media and Whistleblower Protection: A free press and an informed public are fundamental to accountability. The Government guarantees freedom of the press and legal protections for journalists. No law or action shall censor the media except under the most strictly necessary conditions, such as preventing direct incitement of violence, in accordance with law. Whistleblowers—employees or insiders who, in good faith and the public interest, expose wrongdoing—shall be legally protected from retaliation. Secure channels, such as to the Ombudsman or parliamentary committees, will be provided for safely reporting corruption or rights abuses.

Ethics and Conflict of Interest: All public officials, whether elected or appointed, are subject to enforceable codes of ethics. They must disclose financial interests to prevent conflicts of interest. Self-dealing, nepotism, or using office for private gain are strictly forbidden. Independent ethics commissions will review compliance and may refer serious breaches for prosecution. Officials must recuse themselves from decisions where they hold a personal interest. Former officials are restricted from immediately taking jobs in industries they regulated, to prevent a "revolving door" conflict, for a cooling-off period defined by law.

Public Participation in Governance Evaluation: The Government shall periodically invite citizens and independent experts to evaluate governance performance through public reviews, scorecards, or citizen assemblies tasked with examining specific policy areas. Major projects and policies are subject to public consultation before final decisions. When a new policy is implemented, its outcomes are measured and reported transparently, enabling the public to hold leadership accountable for results.

Transparency in Algorithms and Data Use: Should the government employ automated systems or algorithms to make decisions or deliver services, such as in welfare benefits or policing analytics, the design of those systems must be transparent and explainable. Citizens have the right to understand how decisions affecting them are made, including the logic of automated decisions. Regular audits for bias or error in such systems will be conducted, and individuals can appeal automated decisions to a human authority.

In summary, accountability is woven into the fabric of governance. The people not only elect representatives but also continuously monitor and direct the Government's conduct. An informed citizenry and a culture of openness ensure that power truly remains with the people and that any deviations from the Charter's principles are corrected through institutional checks or civic action.

VIII. Amendment, Emergency Provisions, and Evolution

No constitutional system can remain static. The Decentralised People's Government is designed to adapt over time through democratic and transparent means. This section outlines mechanisms for amending the Charter, handling crises, and ensuring the long-term evolution and integrity of the system.

Amendment of the Charter

Amendments may be proposed either by the Federal Legislature with a qualified majority or directly by the people through a popular initiative.

Legislative Proposal: An amendment requires approval by a supermajority, for example, two-thirds, of the Federal Legislature. Following legislative approval, it must be ratified by the people through a referendum. For adoption, an amendment needs the affirmative vote of both an overall majority of citizens and a majority of regions, known as a "double majority". This ensures broad consensus, preventing a bare national majority from imposing constitutional changes opposed by a significant number of regions, and likewise preventing a few regions from blocking a change strongly desired by most people.

Popular Initiative: Citizens may initiate an amendment by petition. If a proposed amendment secures the legally defined number of citizen signatures, for example, a certain percentage of the electorate across a minimum number of regions, it shall be put to a union-wide referendum. The amendment passes if it achieves the same double majority of voters and regions in the referendum. The Federal Legislature may present a counter-proposal on the ballot, but the people ultimately have the final say. This direct democratic tool allows the Charter to be regularly amended through the people's direct participation, reflecting the populace's evolving will.

Entrenched Clauses: Certain fundamental provisions, such as human dignity, basic rights, or the voluntary nature of the union, may be declared entrenched. This means they cannot be abrogated even by amendment, or can only be amended under heightened conditions, such as an even higher voting majority or additional consent procedures. Entrenched clauses safeguard against regression from core principles, for instance, preventing the removal of democracy or equality. However, these clauses can still be refined to expand rights or improve governance, provided their fundamental spirit is preserved.

Emergency Provisions

In times of crisis threatening the constitutional order or public safety—such as natural disasters, public health emergencies, or security threats—temporary measures may be adopted to safeguard the nation.

Declaration of Emergency: The federal executive, with the consent of the Federal Legislature (or with immediate notification to and subsequent approval by the legislature if time does not permit), may declare a state of emergency for a limited duration in the affected area or, if absolutely necessary, across the union. The declaration must clearly state the nature of the emergency, the measures to be taken, and the rights affected. All emergency measures must be strictly required by the exigencies of the situation and consistent with the government's other legal obligations. The principle of proportionality applies: measures shall be appropriate and the least intrusive necessary to restore normal conditions.

Limits During Emergency: Even under an emergency, certain rights are non-derogable. For example, the right to life (except in lawful acts of war), the prohibition of torture and inhuman treatment, and other core human rights cannot be suspended. Censorship or the dissolution of democratic institutions is not permitted beyond what is temporarily necessary to manage the crisis. The judiciary shall continue to operate, with modified procedures if necessary, to ensure legal review of emergency actions. An independent legislative committee, including opposition and regional representatives, shall oversee the executive's use of emergency powers in real time.

Duration and Renewal: Emergency declarations are temporary, typically lasting no more than a short fixed period, such as 30 or 60 days, unless formally renewed by the legislature. If the legislature does not ratify an emergency declaration within a short stipulated timeframe, the declaration lapses. Automatic expiration of emergency powers ensures normal governance is restored as soon as possible. Any extension requires justification and affirmative approval for each period.

Transparency and Post-Action Review: All emergency decrees and actions must be documented and reported to the public, barring details temporarily confidential for security reasons, which should be disclosed once the risk passes. After an emergency, a thorough public audit and inquiry must review the use of emergency powers to learn lessons and hold officials accountable for any overreach or misconduct. The findings of this review are made public, and if abuses are found, responsible officials are subject to legal consequences.

Constitutional Continuity: The Charter provides fallback mechanisms to ensure governance continuity during extreme crises. If normal institutions are incapacitated, for instance, if the Federal Legislature cannot convene due to a disaster, the Charter may authorise interim decision-making by a smaller emergency council or by regional executives acting in concert. This is permitted only within strict bounds and solely for essential functions until full institutions can be restored. Under no circumstances can an emergency be used to permanently alter or undermine the democratic constitutional order.

Long-Term Constitutional Evolution

Beyond formal amendments, the system actively encourages continuous improvement.

Periodic Constitutional Review: At generational intervals, for example, every 20 years, a Constitutional Convention or citizen assembly may be convened to review the Charter's operation and propose updates or revisions. This assembly would include public representatives, selected by election or sortition, experts, and officials, reflecting the union's diversity. Any proposals from such a convention would be put to the people for approval in accordance with the amendment rules. This mechanism ensures the constitutional system can evolve thoughtfully in light of new challenges and aspirations.

Public Audits of Governance: The performance of both federal and regional governance shall be subject to regular public assessments or scorecards. For example, an independent "State of Democracy" report may be issued periodically, such as annually, to evaluate transparency, public participation, and social outcomes against the Charter's principles. Citizen feedback is incorporated into these evaluations. The purpose is to identify areas where practice falls short of promise, prompting reforms in law or administration. These audits also help educate the public about government functions, closing the loop of accountability.

Innovation and Experimental Clauses: The Charter may permit pilot projects or regional experiments that temporarily deviate from certain non-essential provisions, under controlled conditions, to test new forms of governance or policy. This could include a region trialling a novel voting method or community economic model. Such experiments require federal approval, must respect fundamental rights, and must include sunset clauses. Successful innovations can inform permanent amendments or union-wide policy changes, allowing the system to dynamically incorporate positive change.

Secession or Reconfiguration: As this is a voluntary union, the Charter outlines a peaceful legal path for a region genuinely wishing to leave the union or alter its status. This process comes with stringent requirements, such as supermajority support within that region and a negotiated settlement of obligations. While unity is presumed, recognising this right reinforces the voluntary nature of the governance. Any secession process must ensure that the rights of individuals in the departing region continue to be respected, for example, by requiring the seceding entity to uphold equivalent fundamental rights. Conversely, new regions or communities may join the union by adhering to this Charter's principles. Any such changes in the union's composition must be handled through constitutional procedures to maintain stability and fairness.

Guardians of the Charter: To protect the constitutional order, certain actors are designated as guardians. The Constitutional Court, as mentioned in Section III, serves as a judicial guardian. Additionally, all public officials are sworn to uphold this Charter above any contrary orders. The military and civil services, if ever confronted with an unlawful command violating the Charter, are bound to refuse compliance and report the issue. Ultimately, the people themselves are the greatest guardians: an

educated, vigilant citizenry—armed with rights to information, transparency, and participation—is empowered to resist any deviation from constitutional governance through democratic means.

In summary, through these mechanisms for amendment, emergency action, and regular review, the Charter ensures both stability and adaptability. It can withstand crises without abandoning its core values and evolve over time through the informed consent of the people. The constitutional framework thus remains a living document, providing a sturdy foundation for freedom and justice, yet flexible enough to incorporate future wisdom and necessities.

Annex: Practical Reforms for Civic and Economic Liberation

This Annex sets forth a series of foundational reforms designed to protect personal freedom, uphold economic justice, and ensure no citizen is left behind. These measures operationalise the principles of dignity, autonomy, and solidarity found in the Charter. They are proposed for immediate or phased integration into the legal and institutional structure of the Decentralised People's Government.

1. Protection Against Financial Surveillance

No citizen shall be subjected to blanket financial surveillance. Personal financial data is private property and may only be accessed by public authorities with a court order based on individualised suspicion. Mass collection or algorithmic monitoring of transaction data, purchasing behaviour, or account flows is strictly prohibited. Citizens have the right to use alternative, non-traceable payment systems and community currencies without discrimination.

2. Redesign of Lending Principles: Capital First, Not Interest

In all lending agreements governed by the public legal framework, creditors must first recover the original principal. Interest may only be collected after full repayment of the capital. This ensures fairness, prevents compounding debt traps, and restores moral symmetry to finance. Interest accrual shall be capped, transparent, and optional in all community or public lending systems.

3. Guaranteed Public Work and Job Security

Every citizen who is willing and able to work shall be guaranteed access to meaningful public employment. Public work includes, but is not limited to, contributions to infrastructure, education, environmental stewardship, caregiving, and civil mediation. Compensation shall meet or exceed the minimum standards of living. Regions must allocate resources for job creation as a core pillar of economic governance.

4. Anti-Eviction Guarantee Through Work or Support

No citizen shall be evicted from their primary residence due to poverty or temporary inability to pay. Before any eviction, the individual or household must be offered: (a) access to a public job with a livable wage; or (b) financial support sufficient to cover minimum housing costs. Eviction is a last resort and must be judicially reviewed, ensuring dignity and social stability are preserved.

5. Decentralised Public and Community Banking

Regions and local communities have the right to establish publicly owned or cooperatively governed financial institutions. These institutions shall operate under charters that prioritise local reinvestment, fair lending, citizen privacy, and non-exploitative practices. Centralised or supranational institutions shall

have no authority over the operation or surveillance of local banks within the union, unless those banks opt in voluntarily.

6. Citizen-Initiated Public Bonds and Voluntary Taxation Options

To replace coercive taxation with participatory finance, citizens may contribute to regional and federal projects through voluntary public bonds or social investment instruments. These contributions are fully transparent, interest-bearing or benefit-linked, and democratically governed. Core services remain guaranteed by base revenue mechanisms, but all surplus development may be financed through voluntary, accountable means.

7. Community-Based Development and Participatory Financing

Local and regional councils shall have the right to initiate development projects—such as schools, public spaces, transit systems, or renewable energy infrastructure—through community-based funding mechanisms. These may include voluntary levies, municipal bonds, or cooperatively pooled resources. All proposed projects must be transparently costed and subject to public comment before approval.

Major development projects with lasting impact or significant cost must be put to a binding local vote, open to all residents within the affected jurisdiction. Approval requires a simple majority unless otherwise specified by local charter. Councils are obligated to implement approved proposals and ensure full financial transparency in execution.

This mechanism reinforces local sovereignty, aligns development with real community needs, and replaces top-down planning with democratic investment.